

SENATE BILL 2618

By Niceley

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4;  
Title 58 and Title 68, relative to COVID-19.

WHEREAS, the federal government has provided Tennessee with funds to combat the COVID-19 virus; and

WHEREAS, it is in the public's interest to ensure that Tennesseans are able to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus and adequately care for themselves and their family at home; now, therefore,

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 4, Chapter 3, Part 16, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) As used in this section:

(1) "COVID-19" means the novel coronavirus, SARS-CoV-2, and coronavirus disease 2019, commonly referred to as COVID-19, including a mutation of SARS-CoV-2 or COVID-19;

(2) "COVID-19 resources kit" means a package of items used in the treatment of COVID-19 that includes, but is not limited to, a digital thermometer, pulse oximeter, N-95 mask, alcohol-based sanitizer, gloves, and first line agents contained in the Front Line COVID-19 Critical Care Alliance (FLCCCA) I-MASK+ Prevention & Early Outpatient Treatment Protocol for COVID-19;

(3) "Department" means the department of mental health and substance abuse services; and

(4) "Indigent" means a person with an income that is below two hundred percent (200%) of the federal poverty level as defined by the most recently revised poverty income guidelines published by the United States department of health and human services.

(b) The department shall:

(1) Use federal funds received for the treatment of COVID-19 to purchase COVID-19 resources kits for indigents;

(2) Provide COVID-19 resources kits to each indigent upon request, as long as funds are available; and

(3) Promulgate rules to create a process for the request and distribution of COVID-19 resources kits in accordance with the Uniform Administrative Procedures Act, compiled in title 4, chapter 5.

SECTION 2. This act takes effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.